

Psalms 105:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Israel also came into Egypt; and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham.

Analysis

Israel (Jacob) 'came into Egypt' and Jacob 'sojourned in the land of Ham.' This transition sets up the Exodus narrative. What began as temporary sojourn (ger) became prolonged settlement, eventually leading to slavery. 'Ham' refers to Egypt through Noah's son Ham, father of Mizraim (Egypt, Gen 10:6). God's providence brought Israel to Egypt for preservation, growth, and ultimately for demonstrating His power in the Exodus. Christ's family also fled to Egypt (Matt 2:13-15), fulfilling 'Out of Egypt I called my son' (Hos 11:1).

Historical Context

Jacob's family of 70 people entered Egypt during the famine (Gen 46:27). They settled in Goshen (Gen 47:11) and multiplied greatly over approximately 400 years before the Exodus.

Related Passages

Matthew 25:31 — Final judgment

Revelation 20:12 — Judgment according to deeds

Study Questions

1. How does God use unexpected relocations and transitions to accomplish His purposes in your life?
2. What does Israel's preservation in Egypt teach about God's faithfulness even in foreign, difficult circumstances?

Interlinear Text

וְיַעֲשֵׂה אֶת־יִשְׂרָאֵל בְּמִצְרָיִם כִּי־יָמַן בְּבָאָרֶץ כְּתַם־חָמֵן
also came Israel into Egypt and Jacob sojourned in the land of Ham

H935 H3478 H4714 H3290 H1481 H776 H2526

Additional Cross-References

Psalms 78:51 (References Egypt): And smote all the firstborn in Egypt; the chief of their strength in the tabernacles of Ham:

Psalms 106:22 (Parallel theme): Wondrous works in the land of Ham, and terrible things by the Red sea.

Acts 13:17 (References Israel): The God of this people of Israel chose our fathers, and exalted the people when they dwelt as strangers in the land of Egypt, and with an high arm brought he them out of it.